

Bureau of Land Management, Interior

§ 3835.31

§ 3835.16 If I am a qualified small miner, and I obtained a waiver in one assessment year, what must I do if I want to pay the maintenance fee for the following assessment year?

(a) You must perform the required assessment work in the assessment year for which you obtained a waiver from payment of the annual maintenance fee, and file the annual FLPMA document required by the December 30th immediately following the payment of the maintenance fee; and

(b) You must pay the maintenance fee by the proper deadline for the following assessment year.

§ 3835.17 What additional requirements must I fulfill to obtain a small miner waiver for my mining claims or sites on National Park System lands?

(a) Before performing assessment work on National Park System lands, you must submit and obtain the National Park Service (NPS)'s approval of a complete plan of operations in compliance with regulations at 36 CFR parts 6 and 9. Your proposed activities must further the ultimate commercial mineral development of each claim, such as delineation of the mineral deposit or commencement of production. Once you submit a proposed plan, NPS will evaluate the plan, conduct a validity exam if necessary, and either approve or disapprove the plan.

(b)(1) If NPS approves your plan of operations, by the September 1 on which you want to submit a small miner waiver request you must:

(i) Post a reclamation bond with NPS;

(ii) Begin the approved activity; and

(iii) Submit a waiver request complying with § 3835.10 before the assessment year begins for which you wish to obtain a waiver.

(2) By December 30, you must file your affidavit of assessment work for the mining claims and a notice of intent to hold for your mill or tunnel sites.

(c) If NPS does not approve your proposed plan of operations by July 1, to allow you sufficient time to conduct assessment work before September 1, you may—

(1) Pay BLM the maintenance fees by September 1;

(2) Petition BLM before September 1 for a deferment of assessment work; or

(3) Submit a request for a lack of access waiver.

Subpart B—Conveying Mining Claims or Sites Under Waiver

§ 3835.20 Transferring, selling, inheriting, or otherwise conveying mining claims or sites already subject to a waiver.

(a) If you purchase, inherit, or otherwise obtain mining claims or sites that are subject to a waiver, you must also qualify for the waiver in order for BLM to continue to apply the waiver to the mining claims you have received in the transfer; or

(b) If you purchase, inherit, or otherwise obtain mining claims or sites that are subject to a waiver and you do not qualify for the waiver, you must pay the annual maintenance fee by the September 1 following the date the transfer became effective under state law.

Subpart C—Annual FLPMA Documents

§ 3835.30 Annual FLPMA documents.

§ 3835.31 When do I file an annual FLPMA document?

(a) If you must file an annual FLPMA document as required in paragraph (d) of this section, you must file your annual FLPMA documents with BLM on or before the December 30th of the calendar year in which the assessment year ends. (For example, if the assessment year ends on September 1, 2003, you must file your annual FLPMA document no later than December 30, 2003.)

(b) If part 3836 of this chapter requires you to perform assessment work, you must file an affidavit of assessment work. You do not need to complete assessment work in the assessment year when you located your claim. (For example, if you locate a claim on September 2, 2002, you first need to perform assessment work sometime between September 2, 2003, and September 1, 2004.)

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(c) If part 3836 of this chapter does not require you to perform assessment work, either because you located the claim during the current assessment year or because BLM has deferred assessment work, you must submit a notice of intent to hold under §§3835.32 and 3835.33 of this part as an annual FLPMA document filing. You must

state in the notice of intent to hold either that BLM has deferred the assessment work requirement or that you located the claim during the current assessment year.

(d) The following table describes the circumstances under which you must file annual FLPMA documents:

Your situation	Affidavit of assessment work required	Notice of intent to hold required
(1) You have paid annual maintenance fees.	No	No.
(2) You have an oil shale placer claim	No	Yes, by December 30 of each year you must pay the \$550 oil shale fee.
(3) You have a small miner waiver that covers mining claims.	Yes, by December 30 for each assessment year you obtained a small miner waiver.	Yes, but only as described in paragraph (c) of this section.
(4) You have a small miner waiver that covers mill or tunnel sites.	No affidavit assessment work is required for mill or tunnel sites.	Yes, notices of intent to hold are required for mill and tunnel sites.
(5) You have a Soldiers and Sailor's Civil Relief Act Waiver.	No	No.
(6) You have a reclamation waiver	No	Yes.
(7) You have a waiver because you have been denied access.	No	Yes.
(8) You have a deferment of assessment work.	No	Yes, but only as described in paragraph (c) of this section.
(9) You have applied for a mineral patent and BLM has issued a final certificate.	No	No.

[68 FR 61064, Oct. 24, 2003; 68 FR 74197, Dec. 23, 2003]

§ 3835.32 What should I include when I submit an affidavit of assessment work?

When you submit an affidavit of assessment work as required in §3835.31(d), you must include the following:

(a) The name and, if available, the BLM serial number of the claim for which you did assessment work;

(b) Any known changes in the mailing addresses of the claimants;

(c) A processing fee for each mining claim affected. (See the table of service charges and fees in §3830.21 of this chapter); and

(d) An exact legible reproduction or duplicate, other than microfilm or other electronic media, of either:

(1) The affidavit of assessment work that you filed or will file in the county where the claim is located; or

(2) The report of geological, geochemical, and geophysical surveys you filed in the county where the claim is

located, as provided for in part 3836 of this chapter.

[68 FR 61064, Oct. 24, 2003, as amended at 70 FR 58879, Oct. 7, 2005]

§ 3835.33 What should I include when I submit a notice of intent to hold?

When you submit a notice of intent to hold as required in §3835.31(d), you must include the following:

(a) An exact legible reproduction or duplicate of a letter or other notice with signatures of one or more of the claimants or their agent that states your intention to hold the mining claims or sites for the calendar year in which the assessment year ends, and that you filed or will file a notice of intent to hold in the county where the claim is located;

(b) If applicable:

(1) A copy of a BLM decision granting a deferment of the annual assessment work;

(2) A copy of a pending petition for deferment of the annual assessment work including the date you submitted the petition; or